

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION EB-08

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LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7280
INFO AMEMBASSY RANGOON

UNCLAS BANGKOK 19238

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, BM, TH
SUBJ: BURMESE TRADE DELEGATION VISITS BANGKOK

1. A NINE MAN BURMESE TRADE MISSION HEADED BY BURMESE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND FINANCE U MYO MYINT ARRIVED IN BANGKOK JULY 2 FOR A TEN DAY VISIT. MISSION CAME TO THAILAND IN RESPONSE TO PRIME MINISTER KRIANGSAK'S INVITATION DURING HIS RECENT TRIP TO BURMA. IN A PRE-ARRIVAL PRESS INTERVIEW RTG DEPUTY COMMERCE MINISTER SAID THAT BURMA AND THAILAND ARE TO WORK OUT MEASURES TO INCREASE TRADE AND IMPROVE ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

2. THE BURMESE ARE REPORTEDLY INTERESTED IN BUYING "A WIDE RANGE OF GOODS" INCLUDING CLOTHING AND PHARMACEUTICALS WHILE THE THAI ARE PRINCIPALLY INTERESTED IN MINERALS, WOOD, AND JEWELRY. ON ARRIVAL IN BANGKOK THE BURMESE MISSION OFFERED TO SELL SIZEABLE AMOUNTS OF CEMENT AT A LOW PRICE. IT WAS ALSO INDICATED THAT THE TWO SIDES WILL HOLD TALKS ON IRONING OUT THE PROBLEMS OF THE "UNSANCTIONED" TRADE ALONG THEIR LONG COMMON BORDER.
O'DONOHUE

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NNN

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